

## News from Senator

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### STATEMENT BY SENATOR BOB DOLE

#### THE SHIP OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Ship of State has lost its captain. Disagreeing with President Carter that the rescue attempt in Iran was a sound tactic, Secretary of State Vance submitted his resignation last week - in secret, to avoid compromise of the attack - before the failure became a reality. Mr. Vance chartered a course for this country that the Senator from Kansas rarely agreed with. But he did provide some stability and sameness to an Administration foreign policy that was otherwise rudderless. Whatever our past differences, we must all today acknowledge Cy Vance as a man of principle - whose principles ultimately proved more important than mere officeholding.

The Secretary's resignation, was both honest and necessary. On a matter of such magnitude that it has focussed and paralyzed the military and diplomatic power of America for six months, Cyrus Vance offered counsel that Mr. Carter did not accept. It was Mr. Carter's right to overrule his Secretary, and Mr. Vance's once overruled to depart.

#### HOSTAGES IN GREATER PERIL

The Secretary of State sensed that if this military rescue mission failed it could ruin all other efforts to achieve release of the hostages and perhaps even increase their physical peril in the weeks to come. But this tardy resort to action was also a repudiation of the Administration's failed policy over the last six months, a policy of conciliation bordering on national humiliation. Mr. Vance advocated and presided over that policy.

Perhaps time will bring the details and information we now lack to determine whether President Carter's decision was based on sound planning and acceptable risks. But he had to know that trying to end the crisis after six months with one swift stroke would make U.S.-Iranian relations immeasurably more difficult and uncertain if it failed.

#### SPECTACLE OF DISGUST

The Ayatollah Khomeini and his fellow Iranians are demonstrating just how far they have receded from civilized values and human decency. The corpses of the brave American servicemen who died in the rescue attempt have been displayed in Teheran, a cruel and depraved act that brings Khomeini's Islamic republic to a new low in the eyes of the world - and reflects only shame on these pretenders to Islam.

But President Carter's unexpected decision must worry the Ayatollah, Russia too, must recalculate its plans. Jimmy Carter is a desperate man. His fate has been bound up with that of the hostages, and by his own handling of their captivity now that negotiated release is further away than ever, our enemies can expect our foreign policy to be even less predictable than it was before the departure of Secretary Vance.

Mr. Carter and his foreign policy decisions are as unpredictable now as a loose cannon on the captainless ship of State. Unfortunately this will impose new hardships on our allies. They, like the rest of us, remain in the dark. We may find the next few days among the most dangerous in recent years. I only hope that prudence has not departed the Carter Administration with Secretary Vance.